

5/023/015

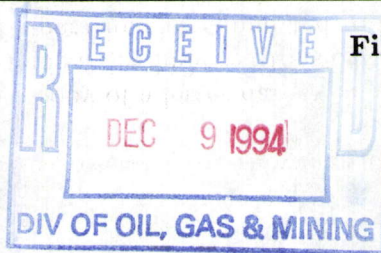


United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Spanish Fork  
Ranger District

44 West 400 North  
Spanish Fork, UT 84660



File Code: 2810/1950

Date: December 7, 1994

Mr. Wayne Hedberg  
Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

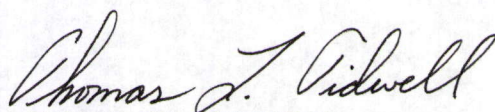
Dear Mr. Hedberg:

This letter is a formal request to obtain information relating to the current and potential future permit status of the Gardner Canyon Gypsum Mine. It is our understanding that the mine is currently permitted as a small mine (M/023/015), based on the fact that the total disturbed area as of this date is 4.96 acres. I would appreciate information on the following:

1. Supporting information that you used to determine the total disturbed area, including a copy of the map that Mr. Steele presented you showing that information.
2. It is our understanding, from a copy of a letter dated August 22, 1991 to Mr. Steele, that he stated he only planned to mine a few hundred tons of gypsum a year. This information is in conflict with the Plan of Operations he submitted to this office which indicated that he would mine 100,000 tons of gypsum a year. Please clarify your understanding of his proposed operation.
3. What is the probability of Mr. Steele needing to secure a large mine permit shortly after he begins a mining operation on this site? Since the present disturbance is 4.96 acres, please explain why he would not need a large mine permit to begin operations. It is difficult to understand how he could begin operations without creating another .04 acre of disturbance.
4. If you do not require a large mine permit before Mr. Steele could start a mining operation, what procedures would you apply to determine the need, and to secure when needed, a large mine permit?

Any information you can provide us would be greatly appreciated. If you should have any questions regarding this request please contact me at (801)798-3571.

Sincerely,

  
THOMAS L. TIDWELL  
District Ranger



Caring for the Land and Serving People